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**UTILITY
PATENT APPLICATION
TRANSMITTAL**

Attorney Docket No.

NTL-3.2.133/3405 (12052SCUS01U)

First Inventor or Application Identifier

Jerry Freestone

Title

METHOD FOR ANNOUNCING E-MAIL
AND CONVERTING E-MAIL TEXT TO
VOICE

Express Mail Label No.

EL070146395US

APPLICATION ELEMENTSADDRESS TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box Patent Application
Washington, D.C. 20231

See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.

1. ☒ *Fee Transmittal Form (e.g., PTO/SB/17)
(submit an original, and a duplicate for fee processing)2. ☒ Specification Total Pages [11]
(preferred arrangement set forth below)

- Descriptive title of the invention
- Cross References to Related Applications
- Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R&D
- Reference to Microfiche Appendix
- Background of the invention
- Brief Summary of the invention
- Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed)
- Detailed Description
- Claim(s)
- Abstract of the Disclosure

☒ Drawing(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) Total Pages [2]

Oath or Declaration

Total Pages [1]

- a. ☒ Executed (original or copy)
- b. ☐ Copy from a prior application (37 CFR §1.63(d)
(for continuation/divisional with box 16 completed)
 - i. ☐ **DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)**
Signed statement attached deleting
inventor(s) named in the prior application,
see 37 CFR §§ 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).

5. ☐ Microfiche Computer Program (Appendix)6. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission
(if applicable, all necessary)

- a. ☐ Computer Readable Copy
- b. ☐ Paper Copy (identical to computer copy)
- c. ☐ Statement verifying identity of above copies

ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS7. ☒ Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s))8. ☐ 37 C.F.R. §3.73(b) Statement ☐ Power of Attorney
(when there is an assignee)9. ☐ English Translation Document (if applicable)10. ☐ Information Disclosure ☐ Copies of IDS Citations
Statement (IDS)PTO-144911. ☒ Preliminary Amendment12. ☒ Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503)
(should be specifically itemized)13. ☐ *Small Entity ☐ Statement filed in prior application
Statement(s) (PTO/SB/09-12) Status still proper and desired14. ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
(if foreign priority is claimed)15. ☒ Other Check for \$1180.00

***NOTE FOR ITEMS 1 & 13: IN ORDER TO BE ENTITLED TO PAY
SMALL ENTITY FEES, A SMALL ENTITY STATEMENT IS REQUIRED
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RELIED UPON (37 C.F.R. § 1.26).**

16. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in a preliminary amendment:

☐ Continuation ☐ Divisional ☐ Continuation-in-part (CIP) of prior application No.: _____

Prior application information: Examiner _____ Group/Art Unit: _____

For CONTINUATION or DIVISIONAL APPS. Only: The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which an oath or declaration is supplied under
Box 4b, is considered to be part of the disclosure of the accompanying continuation or divisional application and is hereby incorporated by reference.
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17. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS☐ Customer Number or Bar Code Label : or ☒ Correspondence address below
:(Insert Customer No. Or Attach bar code label here) :

Name	COBRIN & GITTES				
Address	750 Lexington Avenue, 21 floor				
City	New York	State	New York	Zip Code	10022
Country	U.S.A.	Telephone	(212) 486-4000	Fax	(212) 486-4007

Name (Print/Type)	Richard M. Lehrer	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	38,536
Signature	<i>Richard M. Lehrer</i>	Date	September 25, 2000

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FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2000

*Patent fees are subject to annual revision.
Small Entity payments must be supported by a small entity statement, otherwise
large entity fees must be paid. See Forms PTO/SB/09-12.
See 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.27 and 1.28.*

Complete if Known

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$ 1180.00)

Application Number to be assigned
Filing Date concurrently herewith
First Named Inventor Jerry Freestone
Examiner Name to be assigned
Group/Art Unit to be assigned
Attorney Docket No. NTL-3.2.133/3405 (12052SCUS01U)

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check one)

1. ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayments to
Deposit Account Number [03-2317]
Deposit Account Name: [COBRIN & GITES]
☐ Charge any additional fee required under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17

2. ☒ Payment Enclosed:

☒ Check ☐ Money Order ☐ Other

FEE CALCULATION (continued)

3. ADDITIONAL FEES

Large Entity		Small Entity		Fee Description	Fee Paid
Code	(\$)	Code	(\$)		
105	130	205	65	Surcharge - Late filing fee or oath	
127	50	227	25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
139	130	139	130	Non-English specification	
147	2,520	147	2,520	Request for Reexamination	
112	920*	112	920*	Req publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
113	1,840	113	1,840	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
115	110	215	55	Extension within first month	
116	380	216	190	Extension within second month	
117	870	217	435	Extension within third month	
118	1,360	218	680	Extension within fourth month	
128	1,850	228	925	Extension within fifth month	
119	300	219	150	Notice of Appeal	
120	300	220	150	Brief in support of an appeal	
121	260	221	130	Request for oral hearing	

FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING FEE

Large Entity		Small Entity		Fee Description	Fee Paid
Code	(\$)	Code	(\$)		
101	690	201	345	Utility filing fee	\$690 00
106	310	206	155	Design filing fee	
107	480	207	240	Plant filing fee	
108	690	208	345	Reissue filing fee	
114	150	214	75	Provisional filing fee	
SUBTOTAL (2)					\$690 00

2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES

Large Entity		Small Entity		Fee Description	Fee Paid
Code	(\$)	Code	(\$)		
140	110	240	55	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
141	1,210	241	605	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
142	1,210	241	605	Petition to revive - unintentional	
143	430	243	215	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
144	580	244	290	Design issue fee	
145	240	245	120	Plant issue fee	

** or number previously paid, if greater, for reissues, see below

Large Entity		Small Entity		Fee Description	Fee Paid
Code	(\$)	Code	(\$)		
103	18	203	9	Claims in excess of 20	
102	78	202	39	Independent claims in excess of 3	
104	260	204	130	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid	
109	78	209	39	**Reissue independent claims over original patent	
110	18	210	9	**Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent	
SUBTOTAL (2)					(\$450 00

138	1,510	138	1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
140	110	240	55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
141	1,210	241	605	Petition to revive - unintentional	
142	1,210	241	605	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
143	430	243	215	Design issue fee	
144	580	244	290	Plant issue fee	
122	130	122	130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
123	50	123	50	Petitions related to provisional applications	
126	240	126	240	Submit Info Disclosure Stmt	
581	40	581	40	Patent Assignment per property	\$40 00
146	690	246	345	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))	
149	690	249	345	For each additional invention to 1.129(b))	

Other fee (specify)

*Reduced by Basic filing fee Paid

SUBTOTAL (3)

SUBMITTED BY

Typed or Printed Name Richard M. Lehrer

Signature

Richard M. Lehrer

Complete (if applicable)

Registration Number 38,536

Date September 25, 2000

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EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

Date September 25, 2000 Label No EL070146395US

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Rosemarie Median
Name (Print)

Rosemarie Medina
Signature

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Jerry Freestone, et al.
Serial No. : To Be Assigned
Filed : Concurrently Herewith
For : METHOD FOR ANNOUNCING E-MAIL AND
CONVERTING E-MAIL TEXT TO VOICE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to its examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

AT THE END OF THE APPLICATION:

Add a section entitled "ABSTRACT".

After the heading "abstract" please add: "The present invention is a selective announce system for announcing the receipt of electronic mail and instant messages (e-mail). The e-mail has an attached sound file and a predetermined identifier regarding the nature of the sound file. This sound file may be in the sender's voice, a third party's voice, a computer-simulated voice, or some combination. Upon receipt of the e-mail, the sound file is played or used to convert some portion of the e-mail text to voice. The sound file may be played at a

recipient computer or it may be played at a recipient's voice mail or it may be played at some other terminal."

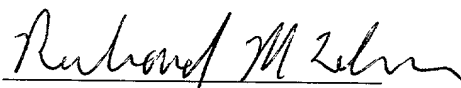
REMARKS

The application has been amended to include a one paragraph abstract which was inadvertently omitted.

An early consideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

Dated: September 25, 2000

Respectfully submitted,



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G:\Apps\WPDATA\NORTEL\3405\PreliminaryAmdt.wpd

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATION

Date: September 25, 2000 Label No.: EL070146395US

I hereby certify that, on the date indicated above I deposited this paper or fee with the U.S. Postal Service and that it was addressed for delivery to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box New Appln. Fee, the Washington, D.C. 20231 by "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service.

Rosemarie Medina
Print

Rosemarie Medina
Signature

METHOD FOR ANNOUNCING E-MAIL
AND CONVERTING E-MAIL TEXT TO VOICE

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Electronic mail, or e-mail, and instant messages (collectively e-mail) have become prevalent in today's society. Their popularity derives mostly from the fact that the days of delay of the typical post office have been replaced with the minimal delay of the electronic post office. Furthermore, e-mail knows no geographical boundaries. People can communicate in writing across the globe almost instantaneously.

However, e-mail has drawbacks. For example, although some e-mail programs alert recipients that new e-mail messages have been downloaded from the e-mail server through the use of sounds, such as a chime, these programs do not inform the recipient of the e-mail's sender or subject, thereby forcing the recipient to look at the computer screen to find such information.

This could be time consuming and bothersome if the recipient is involved in some other task. Further, if not logged onto the e-mail server, a recipient of an e-mail message may not know that a certain message is waiting to be download from the e-mail server. As such, hours and perhaps

days may pass while the message is left sitting in the mail server queue unread. In business transactions, such a delay could be extremely detrimental. Also, a user may receive information via e-mail but may not have the appropriate equipment to access it immediately. Therefore, he is left with the option of eschewing the e-mail entirely or trying to find a computer or other similar device which will allow him to read the e-mail. As such, it would be advantageous to be able to announce the receipt of e-mails.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention is a selective announce system for announcing the receipt of electronic mail and instant messages (interchangeably referred to herein as e-mail). The e-mail has an attached sound file and a predetermined identifier regarding the nature of the sound file. This sound file may be in the sender's voice, a third party's voice, a computer-simulated voice, or some combination.

Upon receipt of the e-mail, the sound file is played or used to convert some portion of the e-mail text to voice. The sound file may be played at a recipient computer or it may be played at a recipient's voice mail or it may be played at some other terminal.

The present invention also allows the context of the e-mail to be translated to a voice message by using a voice sample. This voice message may be heard at the recipient's computer or it may be transferred to a recipient's voice mail.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 is a networked computer system consisting of two mail servers.

Figure 2 is a networked computer system consisting of a single mail server.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The present invention provides an improved electronic mail or instant message (interchangeably referred to herein as e-mail) announce system. The system announces the sender of an e-mail using a sound file. The sound file may be in the sender's voice, a third party's voice, a computer simulated voice, or it may be a combination. The system may also be configured to announce that an e-mail has been received by the e-mail server through the use of Call Screening Messaging and Intercept (CMSI) capable terminals. This option places the recipient on notice that an e-mail message is waiting to be downloaded from the server queue. The system may also have the capability of converting the content of the e-mail to voice using conventional software so that an e-mail can be played as a sound file at the recipient computer or the sound file can be transferred to a voice mail queue. Therefore, recipients of e-mails need not have direct access to a computer terminal to access the e-mail.

In an attempt to communicate via e-mail, a first party (sender) sends an e-mail message to a second party (recipient). At some point, a sound file is attached to the e-mail. The sound file may be attached by the sender's computer or at an adjunct to the sender's computer. It may also be attached by an e-mail server or the recipient computer. The sound file may be a default announcement in a computer simulated voice. The sound file may also be the name of the sender, an announcement in the sender's voice, or some other voice print in the sender's voice. The sound file may also be a combination of a computer simulated voice, or a 3rd party voice, and the sender's voice. The sound file can be a .wav file, or it can be any other type of appropriate sound file.

The e-mail may also contain a predetermined identifier detailing the nature of the attached sound file so as to distinguish the sound file from other sound files that may be attached to the e-mail. This predetermined identifier may be a specific file name such as "vsample.wav". It may also be an information tag embedded in the e-mail. The information tag may appear in the e-mail header, or it can appear elsewhere. The information tag may be appended to the e-mail by the sender's computer or by an adjunct to the sender's computer. It may also be appended to the e-mail by an e-mail server or by the recipient computer. The sender may be provided the option to forego the attachment of the sound file. The option may be turned off for all e-mails or turned off for selected recipients, or only turned on for selected recipients.

Regarding Figure 1, the e-mail message is transmitted from the sender 10 to the sender's mail server 20. The sender's mail server 20 transmits the e-mail to the recipient's mail server 30, or if the sender and recipient have the same mail server (Figure 2), the e-mail will be transferred to the appropriate queue within the same server. At this point, the recipient's mail server 30 may perform various acts.

The mail server may allow the e-mail to wait in the server queue until the message is downloaded by the recipient 40. Once the message is downloaded, the recipient's computer may note the existence of the e-mail's predetermined identifier, and if the correct feature is present and enabled, the computer automatically opens and plays the sound file. The sound file may be played as a free-standing sound file, or it may be appended to a locally stored sound file.

Therefore, the receipt of the e-mail is announced by playing the attached sound file. If the sound file contains the sender's name, it eliminates the need for the recipient to examine the screen to see who sent the new e-mail. If multiple e-mails are received, the computer may play each sound

file in order of receipt or in some other appropriate order. The recipient may be provided with the option to forego the automatic execution of the sound file. The option may be turned off for all e-mails, or turned off for certain e-mails, or only turned on for selected e-mails.

The mail server may also forward the sound file by itself without the accompanying e-mail to the recipient computer. If the recipient's computer has the correct feature present and enabled, the sound file would be played by the recipient computer, either by itself or in conjunction with some other sound file. The recipient would then realize that an e-mail message from a certain sender was sitting in the mail server queue. The recipient may then download the e-mail message in its entirety from the mail server using their computer terminal or some other appropriate terminal.

The e-mail sound file could also be used in conjunction with a Call Screening Messaging and Intercept (CMSI) feature on a Customer Premise Equipment (CPE). The mail server could contact the recipient by ringing the recipient's CPE 50. If the CPE 50 is CMSI compatible, the mail server could use the CMSI feature to play the sound file for the intended recipient via their CPE. As such, the recipient would be informed that there is an e-mail waiting in the server queue to be downloaded. The recipient could then use a computer terminal, or some other appropriate terminal, to log into their e-mail server and download the e-mail.

The mail server could also be configured to interact with the recipient's voice mail system. Upon receiving an e-mail message, the mail server could contact the recipient's voice mail system 60 and leave the attached sound file as a message in the voice-mail. The next time the recipient checked his voice-mail 60, he would be informed that there is an e-mail waiting in the e-mail server queue to be downloaded. The recipient could then use their computer terminal,

or some other appropriate terminal, to log into their e-mail server and download the e-mail.

The mail server could be programmed so that it contacts the recipient's CPE 50 or the recipient's voice mail 60 each time a new e-mail is queued or each time a group of new e-mail is queued by the mail server. The mail server may also be programed to contact the recipient's CPE 50 or the recipient's voice mail 60 based on whether or not the e-mail received at the server matches a criteria on a preference list. Such criteria may include the names of specific senders, specific subjects, specific dates, etc. The recipient can transmit such a preference list to the mail server in several ways, including but not limited to letter, e-mail, a Web Page, or telephone.

In addition to the above, the content of the e-mail may be converted from text to voice. Upon receipt of the sender's e-mail, the attached sound file could be used as a voice sample to convert the e-mail text to voice. For better accuracy, a locally stored voice sample of greater length could be used to convert the content of the e-mail to voice. This conversion may be performed by the mail server or by the recipient's computer using conventional software. It may also be performed by an adjunct to the recipient's computer. The new voice message could then be played at the recipient's computer or it could be transferred to the recipient's voice mail. The e-mail message itself could be deleted from the server queue once it has been converted, or it can be left in the queue for later download.

The mail server could be programmed so that it converts all e-mail messages to voice messages and subsequently transfers them to the recipient's voice mail. The mail server can also be programmed so that the conversion from e-mail to voice mail only occurs when an e-mail matches a preference list. Such preferences may include a specific sender, specific subject or specific date. This preference list could be the same preference list as the one for e-mail

announcements or it can be a different one. The recipient can transmit such a preference list to the mail server in several ways including but not limited to letter, Web Page, or telephone.

Using the above technology, it may be possible for the recipient to access his e-mail through a voice mail system. While accessing his voice mail system, a recipient may select a feature in which the voice mail system interacts with the e-mail server. The attached sound files of each e-mail or each e-mail matching certain preferences in the mail server queue would be played for the recipient. After hearing the sound file for an e-mail, the recipient could be given the option of having the content of that e-mail converted to a voice message. If the recipient selects this option, the mail server could utilize conventional software and the sender's voice sample to convert the content of the e-mail from text to speech. Once translated, it would be played for the recipient.

It is to be understood that the following claims are intended to cover all of the generic and specific features of the invention as described herein, and all statements of the scope of the invention which, as a matter of language, might be said to fall there between.

Having described the invention, what is claimed is:

1. An electronic message comprising:
a sound file; and,
a predetermined identifier indicating an aspect of said sound file.
2. The method of Claim 1 wherein said sound file contains at least one word in a sender's voice.
3. The method of Claim 1 wherein said sound file contains at least one word in a computer simulated voice.
4. The method of Claim 1 wherein said sound file contains at least one word in a computer simulated voice and at least one word in a sender's voice.
5. The method of Claim 1 wherein the predetermined identifier is a specific file name associated with said sound file.
6. The method of Claim 1 wherein the predetermined identifier is an information tag.
7. The method of Claim 6 wherein the information tag is embedded in the e-mail header.
8. A method for sending an e-mail comprising:
attaching a sound file to an e-mail; and,
utilizing a predetermined identifier indicating an aspect of said sound file into said e-mail.
9. The method of Claim 8 wherein said attaching is performed by a computer at a sending party's end.
10. The method of Claim 8 wherein said attaching is automatic.
11. The method of Claim 8 wherein said attaching is performed by an adjunct to a computer

at a sending party's end.

12. The method of Claim 8 wherein said attaching is performed by an e-mail server.
13. The method of Claim 8 wherein said attaching is performed by a recipient computer.
14. The method of Claim 8 wherein said sound file contains at least one word in a sender's voice.
15. The method of Claim 14 wherein said sound file further contains at least one word in a computer simulated voice.
16. The method of Claim 8 wherein said sound file contains at least one word in a computer simulated voice.
17. The method of Claim 8 wherein the predetermined identifier is an information tag.
18. The method of Claim 17 wherein the information tag is embedded in the e-mail header.
19. The method of Claim 18 wherein the information tag is embedded by a sender computer.
20. The method of Claim 18 wherein the information tag is embedded by an adjunct to a computer at a sending party's end.
21. The method of Claim 18 wherein the information tag is embedded by an e-mail server.
22. The method of Claim 18 wherein the information tag is embedded by a recipient computer.
23. The method of Claim 18 where said attaching is selectively performed by a sending party.
24. A method for announcing electronic messages comprising:
receiving an electronic message with an attached sound file;
noting the presence of a predetermined identifier indicating an aspect of said sound file;
and,

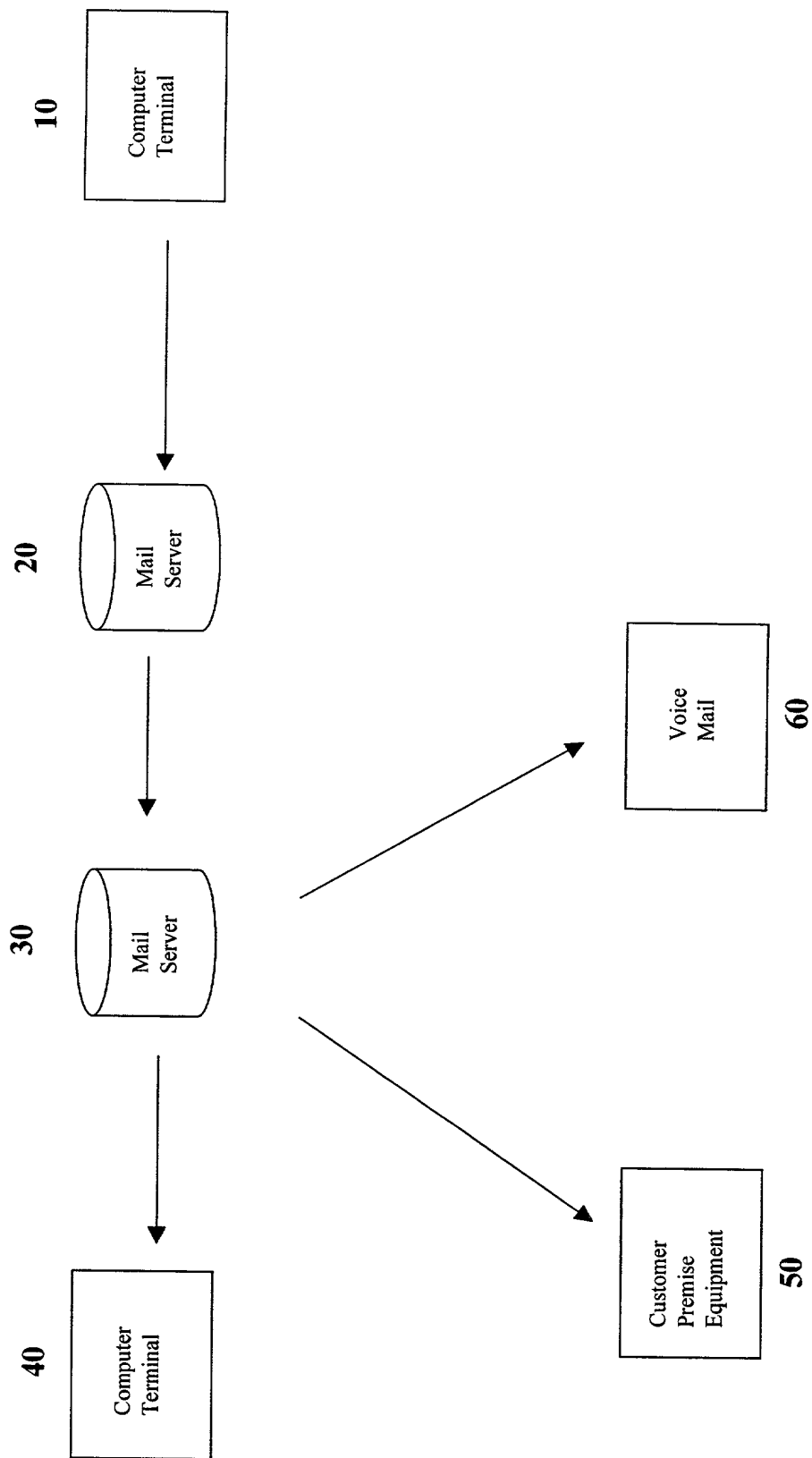
playing the attached sound file.

25. The method of Claim 24 further comprising receiving at least one more electronic message with an attached sound file and playing said at least one more sound file.
26. The method of Claim 24 wherein said sound file contains at least one word in a sender's voice.
27. The method of Claim 24 wherein said sound file contains at least one word in a computer simulated voice.
28. The method of Claim 24 wherein said sound file contains at least one word in a computer simulated voice and at least one word in a sender's voice.
29. The method of Claim 24 wherein noting the presence of a predetermined identifier includes noting the presence of an information tag.
30. The method of Claim 29 wherein the information tag regarding the sound file is embedded in the e-mail header.
31. The method of Claim 30 wherein the information tag is embedded by a sender computer.
32. The method of Claim 30 wherein the information tag is embedded by an adjunct to a computer at a sending party's end.
33. The method of Claim 30 wherein the information tag is embedded by an e-mail server.
34. The method of Claim 30 wherein the information tag is embedded by a recipient computer.
35. The method of Claim 24 where said playing is selective.
36. The method of Claim 24 where said playing is performed at a recipient computer.
37. The method of Claim 24 where said playing is performed at a recipient customer premise

equipment.

38. The method of Claim 24 where said playing is performed at a recipient voice mail.
39. The method of Claim 24 further comprising converting the content of the electronic message to a voice message.
40. The method of Claim 39 where said converting is performed at an e-mail server.
41. The method of Claim 39 where said converting is performed at a recipient computer.
42. The method of Claim 39 where said converting is performed at an adjunct to a computer at the receiving party's end.
43. The method of Claim 39 where said converting is performed at a voice messaging system.
44. The method of Claim 39 wherein said converting is performed using a sound file as a voice sample.
45. The method of Claim 39 further comprising transferring said voice message to a voice-mail box.

FIGURE 1



DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

METHOD FOR ANNOUNCING E-MAIL AND CONVERTING E-MAIL TEXT TO VOICE

specification of which is attached hereto unless the following is checked:

☒ [X] was filed on _____ as United States Application Number or PCT International Application Number _____ and was amended on _____ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above. I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119(a)-(d) of any foreign application(s) for patent or having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application(s):

Priority Claimed

_____ (Number)	_____ (Country)	_____ (Day/Month/Year Filed)	____ Yes ____ No
_____ (Number)	_____ (Country)	_____ (Day/Month/Year Filed)	____ Yes ____ No

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

_____ (Application Number)	_____ (Filing Date)
_____ (Application Number)	_____ (Filing Date)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT International filing date of this application.

_____ (Application Number)	_____ (Filing Date)	_____ (Status - patented, pending, abandoned)
_____ (Application Number)	_____ (Filing Date)	_____ (Status - patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and to manage all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith: Frederic T. Cobrin, Reg. No. 24,117, Mervin S. Glines, Reg. No. 24,350, Richard M. Lehrer, Reg. No. 38,536, David W. Damsberg, Reg. No. 40,984, Robert J. Hess, Reg. No. 32,139, Michael A. Adler, Reg. No. 34,810, Lawrence E. Ross, Reg. No. 35,342 Dwayne L. Bentley, Reg. No. 43,942.

Address all correspondence to: **COBRIN & GITTES**
750 Lexington Avenue, New York, New York 10022 Telephone: (212) 486-4000 Facsimile: (212) 486-4007

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of sole or first inventor (given name, family name) Jerry Freestone
Inventor's signature [Signature] Date: Aug 11, 2000
Residence: Calgary, AB, Canada
Post Office Address: 303-7 Harvest Gold, Macon NE Calgary AB Canada T3L4Y3
Citizenship: Canada

Full name of second joint inventor (given name, family name) Jim Pearsmark
Inventor's signature [Signature] Date: 8 SEP 2000
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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Additional inventors are being named on separately numbered sheets attached hereto.
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